

Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Office of the County Administrator

601 SE 25th Ave. Ocala, FL 34471 Phone: 352-438-2300 Fax: 352-438-2309

March 17, 2020

Wesley Wilcox, Supervisor of Elections 981 NE 16 Street Ocala, FL 34470

Re: Political Signs

In anticipation of our community's upcoming elections, I would like to share a few reminders regarding the placement of political signs within the right-of-way or on public properties. Please share those reminders with candidates and those affiliated with the election process this season.

- Placement of political signs in the public right-of-way, or on any county property, is prohibited, including county property where a voting precinct may be located.
- All signs not in compliance with the Marion County Land Development Code, see enclosed, will be removed and temporarily housed for two (2) weeks from the date of removal at the Baseline Solid Waste facility, before proper disposal.
- Unsuccessful candidates shall remove their signs within two (2) weeks after election date. Also, all signs shall be removed within two (2) weeks after final election.

Candidates and their representatives may retrieve any confiscated signs from the Baseline Landfill transfer station at 5601 SE 66th Street, Ocala. Signs will be located in a labeled container to the west of the transfer station at the southern part of the parking area.

For your convenience, I have also attached an excerpt of the Marion County Land Development Code, which provides further details on authorized placement of signs. The Marion County Land Development Code addressing sign placement provisions can be found online by searching the Municode Library at https://library.municode.com/fl/marion_county, and reviewing article 4, division 4 – advertising signs.

Should you or any candidate have questions regarding this matter, please contact our Code Enforcement Office at 352-671-8900 for assistance. Thank you very much for your assistance in distributing this information.

Sincerely,

Mounir Bouyounes, PE County Administrator

CC:

Matthew Minter, County Attorney Angel Roussel, Assistant County Administrator Tracy Straub, County Engineer Sam Martsolf, Growth Services Director Jody Kirkman, Solid Waste Director Robin Hough, Code Enforcement Supervisor

Empowering Marion for Success

Marion County Land Development Code, Article 4 Zoning, Division 4 Advertising Signs

Sec. 4.4.2. - Exempt signs. The following signs are exempt from the regulatory and permitting requirements of this Code. Exempt signs shall not be located or constructed so that they create a hazard of any kind.

(12) Political signs. Political signs proposed to be located in a residential zoning classification shall not exceed eight square feet and shall be located behind the property line. Political signs proposed to be located in all other zoning classifications shall not exceed 32 square feet and shall be located behind the property line. Said signs may be placed or erected on private property with the permission of the owner, except in the sight triangle which occurs on the corners of intersecting streets or on the corners of driveways. Refer to Section 7.3.1 for construction details. Signs exceeding 32 square feet in size shall obtain a sign permit.

Signs shall not be placed or erected in the public right-of-way or on utility poles located on public right-of-way. When edge of right-of-way is questionable, signs shall be located behind power poles or fence lines.

County shall have the right to immediately remove any and all signs in the sight triangle, in the right-of-way and on utility poles located in the right-of-way in order to protect the life and safety of the traveling public and utility company employees.

All signs shall be removed within two weeks after the final election date of each candidate or issue.

(Ord. No. 13-20, § 2, 7-11-2013)